

CCDA Legislative Status Report

Report ran on Thursday, January 21, 2022

AB 361 (Rivas D) Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences.

Current Text: Chaptered: 09/16/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Status: 09/16/2021- Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State – Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021.

Is Urgency: No

Is Fiscal: Yes

Location: 09/16/2021-ASSEMBLY. CHAPTERED

Summary:

Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act contains specified provisions regarding the timelines for posting an agenda and providing for the ability of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public.

The act generally requires all regular and special meetings of the legislative body be held within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, subject to certain exceptions. The act allows for meetings to occur via teleconferencing subject to certain requirements, particularly that the legislative body notice each teleconference location of each member that will be participating in the public meeting, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that members of the public be allowed to address the legislative body at each teleconference location, that the legislative body post an agenda at each teleconference location, and that at least a quorum of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction.

The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined. The act authorizes the district attorney or any interested person, subject to certain provisions, to commence an action by mandamus or injunction for the purpose of obtaining a judicial determination that specified actions taken by a legislative body are null and void.

This bill, until January 1, 2024, would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when a legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting during a declared

state of emergency, as that term is defined, when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, during a proclaimed state of emergency held for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and during a proclaimed state of emergency when the legislative body has determined that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, as provided.

This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

[AB 1604](#) ([Holden D](#)) **The Upward Mobility Act of 2022: boards and commissions: civil service: examinations: classifications.**

Current Text: Introduced: 01/04/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Status: 1/14/2022-Referred to Committee on Public Employment and Retirement

Is Urgency: No

Is Fiscal: Yes

Location: 01/14/2022-Assembly. Committee on Public Employment and Retirement

Summary:

Existing law provides that it is the policy of the State of California that the composition of state boards and commissions shall be broadly reflective of the general public, including ethnic minorities and women. This bill would require that, on or after January 1, 2023, all state boards and commissions consisting of one or more volunteer members have at least one board member or commissioner from an underrepresented community. The bill would define the term "board member or commissioner from an underrepresented community" as an individual who self-identifies as Black, African American, Hispanic, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, Native Hawaiian, or Alaska Native; who self-identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender; who is a veteran, as defined; or who has a disability, as defined. The bill would apply these requirements only as vacancies on state boards and commissions occur.

Total Measures: 2